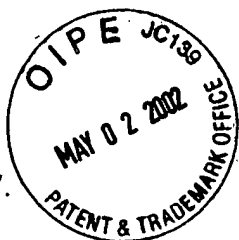


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PATENT APPLICATION

1751
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
: Group Art Unit: 1751
AKIYA NAKAYAMA, et al.)
: Application No.: 10/059,168)
: Filed: January 31, 2002)
: For: TRANSPARENT CONDUCTIVE)
: FILM FORMATION PROCESS,)
: PHOTOVOLTAIC DEVICE)
: PRODUCTION PROCESS,)
: TRANSPARENT CONDUCTIVE)
: FILM, AND PHOTOVOLTAIC)
: DEVICE) May 1, 2002

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are enclosed.

Japan 5-343715

Japan 8-32094

Also enclosed is an English-language abstract for Japan 5-343715, which is believed to comply with the concise explanation of relevance, and an English-language translation for Japan 8-32094.

Inasmuch as the subject application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3). Accordingly, the Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialing the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants

Registration No. 33622

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

